

NOTES ON COLLECTING CERTAIN HISTERIDAE

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Hololepta lucida. The beetles of this genus are almost invariably found beneath bark, their very depressed form adapting them for an existence in such places. I was never very successful in obtaining specimens, two of them taken beneath bark on the same day at Rahway, N. J. representing, with the following exception, the only ones obtained. However, during the late summer and early autumn of 1930, a series of about 50 specimens was taken at Avenel, N. Y. on fruit baits. Although various kinds of fruit were used, this species occurred only on smashed peaches, which had become old and black, in which case the beetles were inside the peaches, close to the pit, and between muskmelon rinds when the two halves were set together as in the original melon. Other fruit baits, as bananas, crushed apples, and grapes, did not yield any of these beetles. During 1931, although a large number of fruit baits were set and examined daily during the entire summer, only one *Hololepta* was obtained. All of the specimens taken so far were *lucida*; *aequalis* is said to be equally common in northern New Jersey, but no specimens were noted.

Hister immunis. A large series of this species was collected by Mr. Everett Lerch and myself beneath stones along the mountain road ascending Musconetcong Mountain from Glen Gardner, N. J., on May 18, 1930. Returning again on May 10, 1931, a similar series was obtained. The species was found over the entire stretch of road, but none were found beneath the stones on the summit of the mountain, or elsewhere away from the road. This record is of interest, partly because beetles of the genus *Hister* are rarely found beneath stones, even singly, and partly because it is the only locality where I have found this species. No explanation for the occurrence of this species can be offered; nor any other species of *Histeridae* taken with them. The males of *immunis* are decidedly smaller and narrower than the females; this difference is not evident in the other species of *Hister* I have so far examined.